

## **Resume of Eileen Dachnowicz: Governor's Award in Language Arts**

With a career in education spanning more than three decades, Eileen Dachnowicz has inspired many individuals, both inside and outside the classroom. A *summa cum laude* graduate of Fordham University, she earned her Master of Arts degree *magna cum laude* from Hunter College. As a teacher of English in Cranford High School, she received university awards for excellence from the University of Chicago, Emerson, Princeton, Rutgers and Tufts. The recipient of three National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Fellowships to Oxford, Cornell and Harvard, she also served as the mentor for many NEH *Younger Scholars*. As the supervisor of language arts and eventually the supervisor of academic affairs at Cranford High School, she has been an activist in implementing programs that accent interdisciplinary studies, equity education, writing across the curriculum and public engagement. The recipient of two NJ Department of Education "Best Practices" awards and four "Promising Practices" from the Character Education Partnership, she has given workshops throughout the state and has worked with individual schools desirous of replicating these programs. A presenter at the NJEA Convention, the NJ School Boards Convention, Youth Service NJ at the College of NJ, the Raritan Valley Community College Character Education Conference and the College Boards Middle States Regional Meeting, she is also recognized by the NJ Equity Hall of Fame for her innovative work in designing programs that foster gender equity. Mrs. Dachnowicz's articles, with subjects running the gamut from practical strategies for teaching Shakespeare to a critical commentary on the Irish medieval epic, have appeared in the *New Jersey English Journal* and *Focus*. Rounding out her varied contributions to the language arts are her interdisciplinary writing manual for the Cranford Board of Education, *Write on Target*, and her professional development presentations to schools throughout the state. A passionate and energetic lover of the language arts, she has been a vital force in motivating others to experience the awesome power of the written and spoken word.